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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1948

Nobbs & Goate, Printers, Loddon and Beccles

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AS TO THE

Sanitary Conditions of Wainford Rural District

FOR THE YEAR 1948.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council of Wainford Rural District.

Gentlemen,

I present the Annual Report to the 31st December, 1948.

STATISTICS.

Area. 44,871 acres.

Population. 7,208.

Inhabited Houses. 2,011.

Rateable Value. £17,040.

Sum raised by Penny Rate. £67.

Births.

	M.	F.	*Total.*	
Legitimate	89	77	173	Birth-rate per 1000, 24. (Rate for England, 17·9).
Illegitimate	—	7		
Stillbirths	1	—	1	Birth-rate per 1000, 0·13. (Rate for England, 0·42).

Deaths.

All causes	39	37	76	Death-rate per 1000, 15·4. (Rate for England, 10·8).
Under 1 year	2	3	5	Rate per 1000 live births, 28·9 (Rate for England, 34·0).

CAUSES OF DEATH.

	M.	F.		M.	F.
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	—	1	Diarrhoea	1	—
,, Other forms	2	—	Other Digestive ...	—	1
Influenza	—	1	Nephritis	—	1
Cancer	3	5	Birth causes	1	1
Apoplexy	4	8	Suicide	1	—
Heart	16	13	Road traffic	1	—
Other Circulatory ...	2	1	Other violence ...	1	2
Bronchitis	1	1	Other causes	5	2
Pneumonia	1	1			

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Measles	59	Malaria	2
Whooping Cough ...	11	Meningitis	1
Pneumonia	4	Jaundice	1
Scarlet Fever	3	Puerperal Pyrexia ...	1

Total 83. Infectious disease incidence, 11·5. Both cases of Malaria occurred in foreign displaced persons. One Infantile Paralysis, 1 Diphtheria, and 1 Spotted Fever were notified but were not confirmed subsequently.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Twelve new cases were notified. Ages and sexes: Respiratory, male, 11, 16, 17, 31, 35, 44; female, 18. Non-respiratory, male, 2, 3; female, 4, 7, 15. Deaths 3; 1 female, respiratory, aged 46; 2 males, non-respiratory, ages 2 and 3.

25 cases remain on the register. Notification of all infectious disease is satisfactory.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Percentage immunised: children under 5 years, 38·3; 5—14 years, 54·6. Children given "booster" doses at school, 12. This continues to be below the safe line; it is, of course, difficult in a country district to get the young children to centres for the purpose. There are, however, an increasing number of Health Visitors in the County, and it is hoped that propaganda by them will have effect.

One case of neglect of children was taken to court and dealt with.

HUBERT PEDLER,

Medical Officer of Health.

12, Fonnereau Road,
Ipswich.

ANNUAL REPORT of the SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1948.

Wainford Council Offices,
1, Ballygate, Beccles,

31st March, 1949.

To the Chairman and Members of the Wainford Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Members,

I present my third Annual Report for the year 1948 dealing with the sanitary circumstances of the district.

I wish to thank the Council for their co-operation and support in carrying out the various functions and duties of the department.

Yours faithfully,

W. A. COLLINS,

Senior Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.

STAFF.

Sanitary Inspector and Building Surveyor. (Whole-time).

W. A. Collins, Cert. S.I.B. and Royal Sanitary Institute Meat and Food Certificate. (Appointed, April, 1946).

Additional Sanitary Inspector. (Whole-time).

B. Morgan, Cert. S.I.B. (Resigned, October, 1948).

Clerk. (Whole-time).

P. Read (Miss). (Appointed, November, 1948).

Rodent Operative. (Part-time).

H. W. Fitt. (Appointed, June, 1946).

EXISTING HOUSING CONDITIONS.

Number of condemned houses occupied	91
Number of houses placed in Category 5 as the result of the 1944—45 Housing Survey	386

HOUSING ACT, 1936, PROCEDURE :

Number of Notices served for repairs under Sec. 9 ...	Nil
Number of demolition orders made under Sec. 11 ...	Nil

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, PROCEDURE :

Number of complaints	19
" informal notices served	23
" informal notices complied with	11
" statutory notices served	1
" statutory notices complied with	1

PROVISION OF NEW HOUSES.

Number of houses built by the Council prior to 1939 ...	84
Number of houses built by the Council in 1944 ...	14

Number of houses completed in 1948 :

Homersfield	4	(Swedish)	
Mettingham	8	"	
Barsham	8	(4 Swedish, 4 Airey)	
Westhall	10	(Traditional)	
Holton	14	(4 Swedish, 10 Airey)	
St. Lawrence	8	(Airey)	
St. Cross	6	(Traditional)	
Stoven	2	"	
Brampton	2	"	
St. Margaret Ilketshall	2	"	
Rumburgh	6	"	
Worlingham	6	"	
Ringsfield	4	"	
			80
GRAND TOTAL ...			178

Number of houses in course of erection :

Redisham	8	(Traditional)
St. Margaret Southelmham ...	8	"

WATER SUPPLY.

Quality and Quantity. The shortage of water continued throughout the year in the parishes with wells and ponds dug in the boulder clay. The carting of water was continued in the following parishes : St. Michael, St. Margaret Ilketshall, Redisham and Shadingfield.

The physical quality of the water obtained from deep wells and borewells continues to give cause for concern owing to the heavy precipitation of iron on exposure to the air which renders the water unsightly and unpalatable and necessitating storage to allow the flocculant iron hydroxide to settle before the householders can use the water.

The bacteriological quality of deep well and borewell waters remains good, but indifferent reports have been received from the bacteriologist in respect of certain shallow wells.

Nine samples of water from public shallow and deep wells were taken for bacteriological analysis of which three were reported as unsatisfactory, two of these samples being from the same well at different times.

Three samples from private sources submitted for chemical analysis were reported on as free from pollution.

The two unsatisfactory public supplies were dealt with as follows:

St. James	...	Alternative piped supply obtained from a neighbouring private borewell.
St. Cross (nr. Church)	...	Concrete surround to well top to be put down.

The long distance and lack of fast transport services to the laboratories tend to restrict water sampling activities.

The following new public supplies were provided during the year:

Stoven	...	...	New 6-inch borewell with hand-pump.		
Westhall	...	...	,,	,,	,, ,,
St. Margaret Ilketshall			,,	,,	,, ,,
St. Cross	...	...	,,	,,	,, ,,

Piped Supplies. In the four localities enjoying public water no serious shortage or breakdown occurred but the peculiarity of the strata indigenous to N.E. Suffolk results in the ever present trouble from precipitated rust. This condition requires frequent flushing of mains and cleansing of water towers, an operation which, owing to the pumps being inadequate to meet the demand, has frequently to be postponed in drought periods.

A 500 yard extension of 4-inch main was laid down in the village of Holton, to form part of the Regional Scheme and to supply 14 new Council houses.

The following sources were provided for supplying piped water to Council houses:

Mettingham	...	New 6-inch borewell and electric pressure set.
Barsham	...	New dug well and electric pressure set.
Homersfield	...	Existing dug well deepened and electric pressure set installed.

It will be a happy day for this part of Suffolk when purified water in sufficient quantity is available from the Regional Water Scheme. The Council's consulting engineers have now prepared their scheme and a Public Inquiry on the first stage is expected shortly.

Details of the Council's Public Waterworks supplying Piped Water.

Parlsh	Pumping Capacity (Gals. per hr.)	Elevated Storage (Gals.)	Miies of Main	Diameter of Main
* All Saints	300	2,000	½	2-inch
* St. Lawrence	175	2,000	1	2-inch
* Rumburgh	300	4,800	2	2-inch
** Holton	6,000	60,000	1	4-inch

* Motive power—wind with auxiliary engine.
** „ „ electric submerged centrifugal pump.

Population and Number of Dwellings with an available supply of Public Mains Water.

Source and Parish	Direct Supply		Standpipe Supply.	
	No. of Houses	Estimated Population	No. of Houses	Estimated Population
Council's Waterworks				
All Saints	4	12	26	78
Holton	85	255	7	21
Rumburgh	13	39	62	186
St. Lawrence	6	18	37	111
Private Waterworks				
Worlingham Park ...	68	204	...	...
Ellough	...	...	172	516
Flixton	21	63	...	...

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

No new sewers were laid during the year.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Occasional slaughtering of pigs takes place at one registered slaughter house at a public institution. No disease was detected in the twelve pigs slaughtered during the year.

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDERS.

Certain producers have improved their premises either by installing the parlour-yard method, the cowshed-yard method or the traditional cowshed-only method, and a more enlightened approach to clean milk production is apparent amongst cowkeepers.

The provision of an adequate and wholesome supply of water is difficult and costly in the greater part of the district and is a decided brake on the movement towards the production of designated milk.

Number of T. T. Licences issued by the County Council ...	22
Number of Accredited Licences issued by the County Council	13

Twelve samples of ungraded milk were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service. Of these, 10 were reported on as being equivalent to Accredited standard as regards bacteriological quality.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

A fortnightly collection of refuse was started by contract in 30 of the 33 parishes on 1st October, 1948. These areas have not previously enjoyed this service. The contractor works to a set time table and householders are required to place their bins at the front gate.

A weekly collection continues in the three remaining parishes which include 240 hutments on two airfields occupied for emergency housing purposes.

Three contractors are engaged and the refuse is consigned to two refuse tips rented by the Council where a partial form of controlled tipping is exercised.

RODENT CONTROL.

The Council's half-time operative carried out 186 treatments at non-agricultural premises, including the Council's refuse tips.

The County Council's scheme of payment for rats at 2d. per tail produced 4908 carcases, the administrative and financial work entailed being carried out by the Wainford Council's sanitary staff on behalf of the County Council.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948.

No permanent factories are registered.